

**In the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

An apoptosis analysis can also be performed in order to determine what effect, if any, the putative inhibitory agent has on JNK-associated activity. For example, an expression vector encoding JNK3 is transfected into an appropriate target cell to induce apoptosis. Target cells are cells that are susceptible to apoptosis. Rat hippocampal neuronal cell line HN33 is a preferred target cell. Alternatively, target cells which naturally contain JNK can be used. In either event, the target cells are cultured in the presence or absence of a test agent and the occurrence of apoptosis determined using known techniques. For example, staining the cell with Hoechst ~~33342~~ 3342 (Sigma Chemical Co.) and observing the stained cell under the microscope. Apoptotic cells appear containing clearly segmented, condensed chromatin Alternatively, apoptosis can be determined by using the TUNEL assay as described by Thomas, L. B., et al., Exp. Neurol., 133:265-272 (1995). See also U.S. Pat. No. 5,593,879, for techniques for examples of stains used to distinguish apoptotic cells.